Attorney Docket No.: 16869P-041700US

Client Reference No.: 210100219US2

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Mineo Nomoto, et al.

Application No.:

Filed: Herewith

For: Method and Apparatus for Measuring Thickness of Thin Film and Device Manufacturing Method

Using Same

Examiner:

Unassigned

Art Unit:

Unassigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98

**Assistant Commissioner for Patents** Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted of that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicant believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement, since it is being submitted prior to the first Office Action. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Mineo Nomoto, et al. Application No.: Page +

Respectfully submitted,

Robert C. Colwell Reg. No. 27,431

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP Two Embarcadero Center, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor San Francisco, California 94111-3834 Tel: 650-326-2400 Fax: 650-326-2422

RCC:mks

PA 3203258 v1

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

| Substitut | te for form 1449A/PTO |       |            | Complete if Known      |                 |     |  |  |
|-----------|-----------------------|-------|------------|------------------------|-----------------|-----|--|--|
|           |                       |       |            | Application Number     |                 | 0 = |  |  |
| INFO      | DRMATION D            | DIS   | CLOSURE    | Filing Date            |                 | PT  |  |  |
| STA       | TEMENT BY             | ' Al  | PPLICANT   | First Named Inventor   | Nomoto, Mineo   | (S) |  |  |
| •         |                       |       |            | Group Art Unit         |                 | 22. |  |  |
|           | (use as many sheet    | ts as | necessary) | Examiner Name          |                 |     |  |  |
| Sheet     | 1                     | of    | 1          | Attorney Docket Number | 16869P-041700US | 203 |  |  |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |              |                              |                |   |   |  |  |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------------------------|----------------|---|---|--|--|
| Examiner Initials *   | Cite<br>No.¹ | U.S. Pa                      | atent Document |   |   | Pages, Columns, Lines,   |  |
|                       |              | Number Kind Code² (if known) |                | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document  MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |  |
|                       | AA           |                              |                |   |   |  |  |
|                       | AB           |                              |                |   |   |  |  |
|                       | AC           |                              |                |   |   |  |  |
|                       | AD           |                              |                |   |   |  |  |
|                       | AE           |                              |                |   |   |  |  |
|                       | AF           |                              |                |   |   |  |  |
|                       | AG           |                              |                |   |   |  |  |
|                       | AH           |                              |                |   |   |  |  |
|                       | Al           |                              |                |   |   | ·  |  |
|                       | AJ           |                              |                |   |   |  |  |
|                       | AK           |                              |                |   |   |  |  |
|                       | AL           |                              |                |   |   | <del> </del>   |  |
|                       | AM           |                              |                |   |   |  |  |
|                       | AN           |                              |                |   |   |  |  |
|                       | AO           |                              |                |   |   |  |  |
|                       | AP           |                              |                |   |   | <u>.</u>   |  |
|                       | AQ           |                              |                |   |   |  |  |
|                       | AR           |                              |                |   |   |  |  |
|                       | AS           |                              |                |   |   |  |  |
|                       | AT           |                              |                |   |   |  |  |

|                       | FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                         |             |   |                                   |                              |  |                |  |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|----------------|--|
|                       | Cite<br>No.1             | Foreign Patent Document |             |   | Name of Patentee                  | Date of Publication of       | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant |                |  |
| Examiner<br>Initials* |                          | Office <sup>3</sup>     | Number      | (ind Code <sup>5</sup><br>( <i>if known</i> ) | or Applicant of<br>Cited Document | Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear   | T <sup>6</sup> |  |
|                       | AU                       | JP                      | 2000-310512 |   | Hitachi, Ltd.                     | 11-07-2000                   |  | Abstract       |  |
|                       | AV                       | JP                      | 2000-077371 |   | Nikon Corp.                       | 03-14-2000                   |  | Abstract       |  |
|                       | AW                       | JP                      | 10-294297   |   | Nikon Corp.                       | 11-04-1998                   |  | Abstract       |  |
|                       | AX                       | JP                      | 10-083977   |   | Applied Materials                 | 03-31-1998                   |  | Abstract       |  |
|                       | AY                       | JP                      | 09-007985   |   | Applied Materials                 | 01-10-1997                   |  | Abstract       |  |
|                       | AZ                       | JP                      | 06-252113   |   | Matsushita Electric               | 09-09-1994                   |  | Abstract       |  |
|                       | BA                       |                         |             |   |                                   |                              |  |                |  |

|                       |                    | <br> |
|-----------------------|--------------------|------|
| Examiner<br>Signature | Date<br>Considered |      |

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.